OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR

FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: SB 2183
DATE 3/13/02
CC: FILE

SB 2183

SB 2183 amends current law to provide that rural water districts, rural water systems, non-profit water associations and municipal water systems in municipalities of 10,000 or less shall not be required to bear the cost and expense of removal and relocation of their utilities from state highway rights-of-way, rather, the expenses are to be picked up by MDOT. Current law requires all property owners to incur such costs.

SB 2183 is effective July 1, 2002.

Pete Boone of the Rural Water Association contacted us to express the Association's support for this bill.

MDOT supports SB 2183, although, according to Charlie Smith, they wanted to amend two items in committee: 1) MDOT wants to reduce it to municipalities of 5,000 or less and 2) wants it to include sewage and not just utilities. Smith said that they will work on the bill next year.

I recommend that you sign SB 2183.